



MCGUIRE BANNER

McGUIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL



Vol. III

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1945

No. 4

"We'll Be Home... Xmas" Sing Patients

The Christmas furlough department announced this week that plans had been completed for 1225 patients to spend the holidays at home.

Of the 1225 home bound men, reservations have been made for 384 on busses and 603 on trains. There are 239 men who have arranged for their own transportation. Captain John M. Sisley, coordinator of the Christmas furlough program, explained that the large number of train reservations were made in view of the pending bus strike. The great majority of these patients live within the Third Service Command, and only a small handful will travel as far as the Ninth Service Command.

It was also announced that the reconditioning department is turning over the four amputee-driving cars to expedite travelling for litter patients. The patients will be driven directly from the hospital to their doorsteps. This special chauffeur service will include Baltimore.

Capt. Sisley gave a great deal of credit to the representatives of the various bus and train lines. "They spent much time and effort in securing reservations for the large number of holiday-goers."

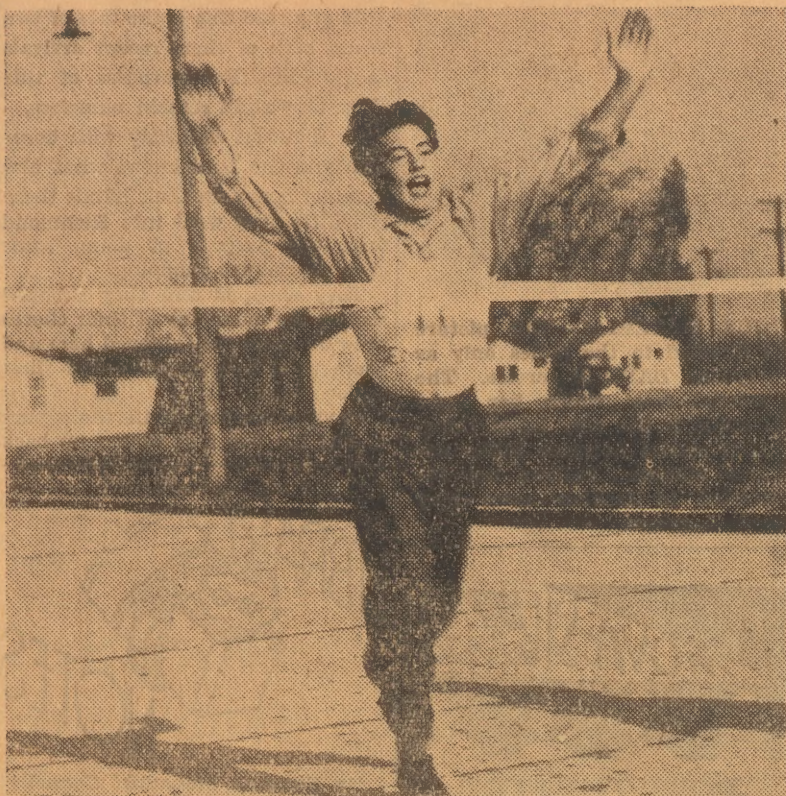
In spite of the effort involved in obtaining the reservations, there was a small group of patients who failed to pick up their reservations. These careless few had to go downtown and arrange their own transportation.

Vehicles are transporting patients morning and afternoon from the hospital to the bus and railroad stations. They are leaving from the rear of the reconditioning warehouse—opposite the baggage room.

Gals, It's Sinatra At Bond Show

The swooner is coming to Richmond and bringing with him that man with the sweet horn. Frank Sinatra and Charlie Spivak will appear at the Mosque Sunday night in the wind-up of the local bond rallies held during the Victory Loan drive in Richmond.

A number of tickets have been set aside for patients.



FLEET-FOOTED MERCURY—Larry Toscano, an amputee, demonstrates that, as far as he is concerned, having an artificial limb is only a minor handicap. This week Larry ran the 100-yard dash in the amazing time of 13 seconds flat.

Local Radio Network Completed by New Year

The \$100,000 broadcasting project begun at McGuire in mid-August is rapidly nearing completion.

Beside hushatone units are operating in buildings 207 and 302 and within a few days installations will be completed in building 303. Nearly all patients returning from holiday furloughs will find their bedside radios awaiting them.

Detachment Heads Affected by Change

Several changes took place in the enlisted men's detachment here this past week when it acquired a new commanding officer and first sergeant.

Lt. Sylvester McCusker former detachment commander was transferred to the medical inspector's office and was replaced as detachment head by Lt. Charles O. Clark, Jr., erstwhile chief of the hospital police and personnel section.

1st Sgt. John Atmanchik on his way out of the army, turned over his job to T-Sgt. Peter J. Anania of the post signal section and a regular army man.

Lt. John R. Lees, post signal officer, indicated that by the end of this week 50 per cent of the system will be installed and supplying entertainment for the individual taste of each patient. By Christmas approximately 90 per cent of the total radio program distribution system will have been finished.

The installing and technical details of the units and loudspeakers is being handled by Mr. L. E. Bley, of the Noone Electric Company, Baltimore, Md. Engineers from the Signal Office of the Third Service Command have been inspecting and checking installations for the past two weeks.

Loudspeakers carrying programs from the four major national networks, Richmond stations, are already functioning in the Red Cross auditorium and will soon be operating in the patients mess and various lounges. Programs are being received direct over telephone wires from WRVA and WRNL. Stations WLEE and WMBG are being picked up from the air and fed locally through the control board.

McGuire's own station, MCGH, began broadcasting Catholic and Protestant services from the chapel last Sunday. They are picked up by remote control and sent over wires to the station. Friday evening Jewish services will also be broadcast regularly beginning this week.

The radio station has recently been made a part of the reconditioning section. Major Craig W. Muckle, chief of reconditioning, announced that no new plans were being made for the station.

School's Out!

Book larnin' GI's, patients and other aspirants for higher education will have to put aside their studies until next year. The study center in ward 58 announced that evening classes and lectures will be halted during the holidays, effective this week. The regular evening schedule will be resumed Jan. 10, 1945.

One-Legged Sprinter Runs Race in Fast Time

"I got good and mad when my buddies said it couldn't be done, until, finally, I just got out there and showed them that it could, and that I was the guy to do it," said Larry Toscano, an amputee patient at McGuire General Hospital.

What Larry was referring to was running a hundred-yard dash in thirteen seconds. Today, Larry polished off the distance in thirteen seconds flat, artificial leg and all.

It all started about a month ago when the announcement was made by the War Department that former Lt. Bert Shepherd, who pitched for the Washington Senators ball club last season, was scheduled to appear before the patients at McGuire. In heralding Shepherd's visit to the local amputee center, the announcement mentioned that Shepherd, a below-the-knee amputee, could run a hundred yards in twelve seconds.

Amputee patients at the hospital, always eager to observe the efficiency of the prostheses issued by the army were disappointed badly when a further message disclosed that Shepherd's tour had been cancelled.

In the bull sessions on the ward, speculations about such an achievement were still a hot subject for discussion. Toscano, a former semi-pro football and baseball player before joining the army, contended that he could duplicate the time claimed by the War Department for Lt. Shepherd. Jeers, disbelief and finally demands for proof were the reactions of his ward-mates to the twenty-one year old soldier's claim.

Today Toscano's critics are silent. In an amazing demonstration of speed under conditions far from ideal, the amputee tore down a concrete road on the hospital grounds and broke the tape three seconds over the best time he was able to make for that distance with two sound limbs.

Before his run the soldier-athlete seemed almost indifferent to the test before him. He spurned the suggestion that he take a preliminary warm-up; nor would he swap his ordinary street shoes to don a pair of track shoes.

From a standing-up position he started down the improvised track. As the hand of the stopwatch passed the five-second mark, Larry had covered half the distance. Then,

just barely perceptibly, he started to slow down. Picking up speed again he flashed by the finish line.

"I felt only a little strain," Toscano replied when questioned about his condition. "My leg stood it pretty well," he said.

Toscano was then taken over to the McGuire gymnasium and went through an athletic routine that included rope-skipping, passing a football and dribbling a basketball on the court.

Toscano has had his artificial limb for three months. From the first, his skill in using the prosthesis won notice from physiotherapists at the hospital. Fitted with a leg, he left the medical installation to try it out on the pavement of Richmond the same evening. At the end of six days he was informed that he had passed all walking tests at the hospital.

The race was Toscano's last feat as a soldier. The next day had him scheduled to leave for a separation center near his Lyndhurst, N. J., home for discharge from the service.

Holder of the Bronze star medal for "meritorious service", Toscano trained with the 10th mountain troops and was sent with them to Italy where he lost his left leg below the knee as the result of enemy artillery fire. He leaves the army after three years to resume his job as an electrician.

The veteran played semi-pro baseball with the "Marions" in Jersey City and played right half-back for the "Destroyers," a semi-pro eleven in that city.

Toscano is still determined to equal the twelve second mark claimed for Shepherd but regrets that his buddies at McGuire will be unable to see him run. Despite his own personal modesty, Larry Toscano is aware that performances such as his are a constant inspiration to amputee patients everywhere.

As one amputee spectator observed while watching his buddy run, "Maybe I can do it, too."



THERE THEY GO—Shown here is a very small percentage of the patients who took advantage of the facilities offered by the Christmas travel bureau established at McGuire by the reconditioning section to facilitate furlough travel for patients going on holiday leaves. Representatives of the rail and bus lines were on hand to expedite travel matters for the holiday-goers.



SERGEANTS SWITCH—With 1st Sgt. John Atmanchik on his way out of the army with a discharge all wrapped up, T-Sgt. Peter J. Anania, of the signal section here, took over the reins as detachment top-kick. As a parting gesture, Atmanchik decorated his office in a really tasteful fashion for his successor.

McGUIRE BANNER

Published every Friday for the personnel of McGuire General Hospital by the Public Relations Office. Approved periodical number: APN-3-19-M.

COLONEL P. E. DUGGINS, MC, Commanding Officer

CAPT. HOWARD B. LEEDS, QMC, Public Relations Officer

EditorSgt. David Fidler

Reporter T-5 Pat Crane

Photographers.....Cpl. Charles A. Smith and Pfc. Jack Pearson

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Writer's Cramp

It will be cause for celebration everywhere—well, almost everywhere, this New Year's—but it is going to be a sad day for 1,000 general officers. The dawn of New Year's Day 1946 will herald R-Day for the brass who have had stars in their eyes and on their shoulders since the war began. R-Day will mean reconversion for these officers, who will revert to their permanent grades or be retired from the service.

Most of the officers affected will trade their stars for chickens or silver or gold leaves. The War Department admits that not a few will replace their celestial symbols for the single silver bar of a first lieutenant.

Enlisted men, taxpayers and historians will note with relief that this is another trend indicating that the war may be over.

By way of the wires of the United Press we are informed that "the share-cropper of Dixie has often been dramatized as the lowest creature in the whole American economic system. Bad off as he may be, the Dixie share-cropper is practically a millionaire compared with the average Japanese farmer.

"But happier days are ahead for the average Japanese farmer," the wire ticks off. "General MacArthur is seeing to it. He has decreed that absentee land owners must surrender their holdings to the people who plant and reap the crops. The general has ordered that tenants must be given purchase terms enabling them to buy their own little rice paddies. Long-term credit on easy interest rates is a part of the MacArthur program for Japan.

"Part of the general's directive reads as follows: 'The purpose of this order is to exterminate the pernicious ills which have long blighted the agrarian structure of the land, where almost half the total population is engaged in husbandry.'"

General MacArthur's plans for the Japanese farmer are admirable. They raise an interesting question. Since it is conceded generally and logically that we beat the Japanese, how can we reconcile bringing that kind of enlightenment to those whom we defeated, while we continue to overlook the same problem where it exists in these victorious United States?

MacArthur's program, if proposed for the relief of our tenant farmers at the expense of absentee landlords, would be condemned as revolutionary, as dictatorial. In effect in Japan, it creates not even a ripple of excitement.

Frankly, we don't get it.

The feminine intellect, at best an elusive chimera, continues to evade us. In this country women voters have been known to band together to defeat a candidate whose moustache was not trimmed properly, or to elect by an overwhelming majority a seeker of office who told his constituents that his rival ate "fish-eggs" because the man had a fondness for caviar.

In Nazi Germany, condemned by a ruthless political machine to a life devoted to "Kinder, Kirche, Kueche" (children, church, kitchen), the women of that country are still manifesting their loyalty to the leaders who deprived them of their husbands, their individuality and their self-respect.

An opinion poll taken in Germany revealed that women were, on the average, 68 per cent Nazi-inclined or Fascist-minded, as against 38 per cent of the men. The women were not consciously pro-Nazi—no German admits that today—but in their answers to certain subtly posed questions they indicated that they still favor the "Fuehrer" policy rather than democracy, of which they have even less understanding than men.

The information gathered for the New York Times by Tania Long reveals further that "... it is safe to say that if another dictator presented himself to the German people and they had a chance to install him in power, it would be the women, who are more politically minded than the men-folk, who would give him their vote."

While the German women hate the Allied occupation forces, whom they still regard with contempt as the enemy, they provoke our soldiers and consort with them willingly for the usual compensation of soap, cigarettes or chocolate bars.

Hating their conquerors and still associating with them, the state of German womanhood today is the end product of the official Nazi policy which subverted the needs of the Reich for more children—to fill the "lebensraum" they expected to conquer.

These are the mothers of a new generation of Germans. What will their offspring resemble? How deeply will these children be influenced by the mothers? These are disturbing phases to the many-sided problem of fitting Germany back into a world which cries for peace.

And they swam and they swam all over the dam. —D. F.



"I'm worried about Junior. He's always saying his back aches."

You Can't Lose

In promoting an army arts and crafts contest for patients at the Billings general hospital at Indianapolis, the special services office there had a poster drawn.

On the bottom of the placard was the legend:

"It is advisable that all the prize winners be announced the day before the contest begins."

In Texas, a duck-hungry hunter was shot in the knee, by a duck which collided with his pistol hand.



NICE MATERIAL—This picture is directed to the ladies only as a special BANNER service. The material from which her dress is made is the very latest thing, MGM starlet Lorraine Miller assures readers. Fellows not interested in fashion notes may look elsewhere.

MOVIES

POST THEATRE

Week of Friday, December 14. Show for patients at 6:15 p.m.; for duty personnel at 8:15 p.m., daily. Matinee every Sunday at 2 p.m.

FRIDAY—"Snafu," with Robert Benchley, Vera Vague, Conrad Janis.

SATURDAY—"How Do You Do," with "Mad Russian Gordon, Harry VonZell.

SUNDAY & MONDAY—"Dakota," with John Wayne, Vera Hruba Ralston.

TUESDAY—"Strange Mr. Gregory," with Edmond Lowe, Jean Rogers.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY—"Yolanda and the Thief," with Fred Astaire, Lucille Bremer, Frank Morgan.

FRIDAY—"The Daltons Ride Again," with Allen Curtis, Kent Taylor, Martha O'Driscoll.

Bars and Stripes

To Master Sergeant

T-Sgt. Paul B. Funke

S-Sgt. Robert L. Powell

To Technical Sergeant

S-Sgt. Isidore I. Kessler

S-Sgt. Irving N. Perry

Tec 4 Richard W. Rosenberger

To Staff Sergeant

Sgt. Clarence W. McCauley

Cpl. Harold H. Lusmann

Tec 5 Delmar L. Dayton

Tec 5 Arzo Whisenhunt

To Sergeant

Cpl. Leslie G. Bovee

Cpl. Joseph G. Powell

Tec 5 Alvin L. Haberstitch

Tec 5 Norman J. Palmer

Pfc. Wilmer D. Caldwell

Pfc. William H. Farrell

To Technician Fourth Grade

Tec 5 Effie J. Fullard

Tec 5 Edith E. Campbell

Tec 5 Doris L. Connors

Tec 5 Laura Patriarchi

To Corporal

Pfc. John C. Lapdis

Pfc. Roy D. Lynn

Pfc. Joseph R. Iovino

Pfc. John E. Scarberry

Pvt. Daniel Bruni

To Private First Class

Pvt. Russell R. Cromwell

Pvt. James F. Current

Pvt. Forrest J. Noll

From Foxhole to Tincan

After five years and nine days in the Army, Grover E. Lee of Tyler, Tex. finally was discharged. A few hours later, the new vet ambled over to the local naval recruiting station and enlisted. He was given the rank of seaman, first class.

G.I. SHAVINGS

BY

JOE and JOSIE

McGUIRE

We guess it had to happen but why it had to happen here is something we'll never know, we guess.

At any rate this is the tale of two Wacs, both of them recent arrivals at McGuire. For purposes of this story they shall remain nameless.

On a recent Saturday with boredom and the Lord knows what else hanging heavy on their hands these two little girls went into Richmond with the purpose of doing some early Christmas shopping.

They shopped and they shopped and as the monotony of their chores grew on them they stopped here and there to relieve themselves of their tedious work.

Having completed all their purchases the two kids wound up back in the barracks and we mean wound up.

Bright and early the next morning the sun rose over the Wac shacks and as it stole silently in through the windows it revealed two little arms in two little beds, and on each of the arms in each of the beds was a little tatoo.

"Oh, Lydia; oh, Lydia, you must see Lydia."

Crime notes. We bring you the last of the saga of Earl Rackoff's bicycle. After Henrico and Chesterfield county police as well as the local MPs had spent many fruitless hours in searching for it, it was discovered by Earl protruding like a hunchback's bump, from the opening in the ceiling of his barracks within ten feet of the Padre's sack.

LIBRARY

NOTES

By Suzanne McLaurin Connell

Now that the days are growing bleaker and shorter and the nights are growing colder and longer, our thoughts naturally turn to the subject of winter reading.

Reading—always one of the best indoor pastimes—takes on an added glory during winter. It is at its best in cold, gloomy weather and it appears to best advantage against the grey background of a wintry day. It is fun to be out in the crisp, cold air and enjoy the beauties of a snow-clad world, but it is even greater pleasure to come into a warm room, sit by a log fire, and read a good book.

For instance, Dickens always seems an ideal companion for winter reading. During December we naturally think of him and especially of "A Christmas Carol" and "Pickwick Papers," which contain some of the finest descriptions of Christmas in the English language. Since our first reading of the Dickens books at the ripe old age of ten years, it has been our annual custom to read "Pickwick Papers" every December—a custom which seems as much a part of Christmas as hanging wreaths, lighting candles, and bringing in the Yule log. We can't imagine anything cozier than sitting by a blazing fire, probably just at twilight, listening to the pleasant mingling of such sounds as a purring cat, singing tea kettle, and falling rain or sleet, and reading "Pickwick Papers" or some other favorite book. December is the perfect time for enjoying Dickens's superb descriptions of the Pickwickian travels through "Merrie England" on stage coaches, stopping at old country inns, and spending Christmas with the Wardle family at their home, Dingley Dell.

Chapel Schedule

PROTESTANT

Midweek Service Wednesday evenings6:30 p.m.

Conference Room 12, Building 303.

Daily Services, Monday through Saturday inclusive, 8:00 a.m. in Red Cross lounge.

Sunday Service.....9:30 a.m. and, at 10:30 a.m. in Conference Room, Bldg. 303.

CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass8:30, 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass:

Mon., Thurs., Sat.5:00 p.m.

Tues. and Fri.6:00 a.m.

Confessions Sat.....6:30-8:00 p.m.

JEWISH

Friday Services.....7:00 p.m.

the inquiring line

By Major R. A. Murphy

Q. Is there a retired list for officers other than Regular Army?

A. Yes there is. AR 605-255, 29 Oct. 45 establishes The Officers Honorary Retired List for the purpose of providing a measure of recognition for officers and former officers of the Army of the United States not members of the Regular Army who have served faithfully and well for long periods of service or during national emergencies.

1. Eligibility—Those in the following categories are eligible for inclusion on the Officers Honorary Retired List:

a. An officer of the inactive National Guard.

b. An officer in the inactive Section of the Officers' Reserve Corps.

c. A former commissioned officer of the Army whose separation therefrom was under honorable conditions and who meets any of the following requirements:

(1) Has reached the age of 60.

(2) Has completed 15 years of honorable service in an active or inactive status (including warrant officers and enlisted service) in any component of the Army of the United States, including such services in any component of the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard.

(3) Has become physically disqualified for general military service not as a result of misconduct or undesirable habits over which he has control.

(4) Has served honorably in time of national emergency but who is not eligible because of age or physical condition for appointment or reappointment in the National Guard of the United States or the Officers' Reserve Corps upon his relief from active duty.

(Note—Officers on the Regular Army Retired List are not eligible.)

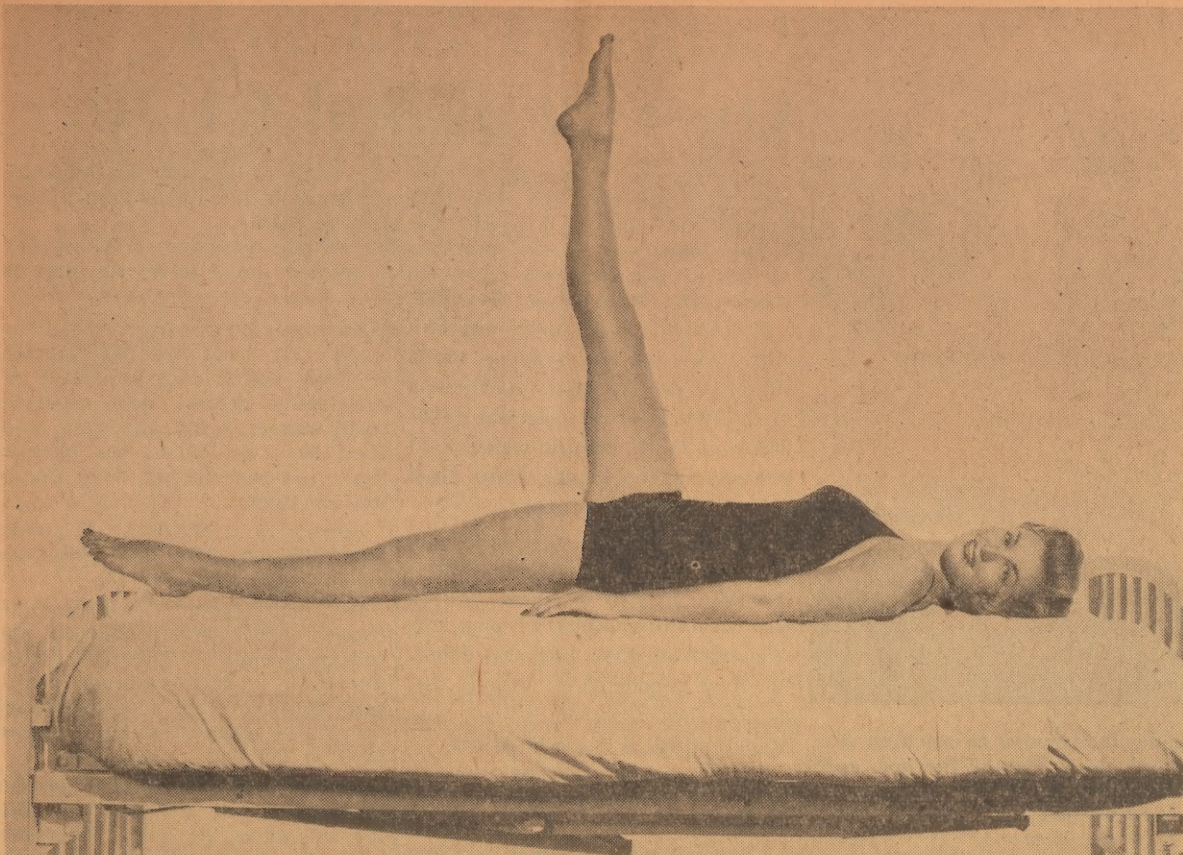
2. Placement upon list—Eligible officers will be placed on the Officers Honorary Retired List only upon their applications. Such applications will be made to The Adjutant General in letter form and will include the officer's full name, grade, Army serial number, permanent address, and the facts upon which he bases his claim to eligibility.

Let There Be Light

A 23-year blackout has ended in St. Nazianz, Wis. A storm in 1922 disrupted the town's lighting system and it wasn't repaired until last week. "No one got around to it," the mayor explained.

No Ring?

Charging cruelty, Mrs. Ruby Gresham, of Memphis, Tenn., has sued for divorce. She asks no alimony, merely the custody of the family telephone.



ALTERNATE LEG RAISER—These pictures of Esther Williams keep getting better and better. In this, the second in a series of seven, Esther is doing the second movement. This exercise is guaranteed to strengthen the ilio-psoas, the rectus femoris and tensor fascia femoris. The TM also states that the abdominal muscles are used to fix the pelvis. Read the BANNER and become a doctor. Next week, frammis on the stratisfern.

Wears Prostheses 18 Years, Amputee Tells Experiences

The following letter from an amputee of eighteen years' experience wearing an artificial limb is reprinted from the November 14th Washington Times-Herald:

"I think that it is about time to tell the public the other side of the story about artificial limbs. The articles so far printed have very little, if any, experienced background.

"By that I mean the authors of these articles have worn artificial limbs only a short time, maybe a year or maybe a week. Some have never worn limbs at all.

"One is hardly qualified to make any statement either way unless he has worn a limb long enough to know how it stands the strain of everyday use. As for myself, I have been wearing two artificial limbs, both above the knee, 7- and 9-inch stumps, for nearly 18 years. I know how they work and how they wear.

"I have a regular position, like most any other physically perfect man. I stand on my feet about five hours a day doing spray painting. I am also active in sports, as I bowl, pitch baseball, hunt, and fish. When you tramp over five miles of ground, hunting, your limbs are under more strain than 100 times normal walking on sidewalks. The strain of twisting the joints when you bowl or throw a baseball is terrific.

"My limbs stand that pressure. "I have worn four pairs of limbs in 18 years, and the ones I have now will last at least four more years. This averages five and a half years at the least. My other limbs didn't wear out—I outgrew them as I became older. With the experience I have had I can say that the limbs are strong and will stand a lot of punishment.

"You must take into consideration that you wouldn't beat your natural leg around. Therefore, if you treat your artificial limb as a natural limb, it will give you years of satisfaction.

"As for the squeaks that cause embarrassment (as one writer gave as one fault), the answer is simple. If you don't oil your car or any other mechanical device, it will become noisy. What's the difference? You wash your natural limb to keep it clean, so as not to have dirt sores collect and cause little use of the limb.

"Well, just bathe your artificial limb with oil at the joints ever so often and your answer is there.

"There have been improvements in the industry in the past 25 years. Metal limbs have been perfected for lightness. Hip control has been installed on above-knee limbs so as to do away with about six feet of straps over your back and shoulders, much as my first pair had; and there are many other

things that add to more comfort in an artificial limb.

"There has been talk about limbs being too heavy. Mine weighs 7½ pounds each. That is considered a little better than average weight for above-knee limb. They do not tire me, and as for myself, another couple pounds would come in handy in windy weather, as they are light at 7½ pounds and hard to handle in windy weather.

"The shape of these limbs is perfect. A lady wearing stockings can stand in front of a person without being detected that she is wearing an artificial limb. The same is true of a man. Of course, if the limb is not covered it is noticeable only by the joints and color. But who wants to run around without stockings, anyway?

"As for the price, well, \$150 to \$250 is just a trifle, considering the benefit you derive from the appliance. And you must remember there is a lot of skilled labor involved in the manufacture of the limb. As for me, I wouldn't be without mine."

(Signed) HARRY E. ASHBAUGH

Agency Started to Ease Housing

A coordinating agency to cope with the acute housing shortage facing military and civilian personnel at McGuire is being organized currently at the hospital.

In cooperation with the Richmond chamber of commerce, the military agency will attempt to find adequate housing facilities for those in need of them, according to George League who will head the organization.

Mr. League appeals to all interested parties to register their requirements with the agency. Information desired includes a clear statement of the individual's housing needs; type of accommodations needed, whether furnished or unfurnished; approximate length of time of occupancy; number of persons in the household and ages of children; amount of rent and a phone number by which the prospective tenant may be reached.

The list will be kept up to date by frequent calls and registrants are urged to cooperate with the agency by keeping it posted on all changes.

Listings are being accepted now and interested persons may register by calling Mr. League on ext. 231 R-2 as soon as possible.

MGH Tops Bond Quota As Sales Soar

McGuire hospital has soared over the top of the bond drive goal!

The quota of \$93,328.00 has been topped by purchases totalling \$104,751.00, which represents 112 per cent of the goal. The drive is not over though for military installations. Military and civilian personnel at McGuire are urged to keep up the bond purchases until the first of the year.

Total cash sales to date amounts to \$30,948.00—of which \$19,323.00 represents military purchases and \$11,625.00 civilian sales. Civilian purchases and deductions have reached 98 per cent of the total goal of \$48,328.00, while the military quota of \$45,000.00 has been surpassed, by purchases and allotments totalling \$57,302.00 This represents 127 per cent of the military goal.

Mr. William E. Eubank, chairman of the civilian committee, expressed great satisfaction at the results of the bond drive. "The response to the campaign on the part of the civilian employees of the hospital is increasingly good. If it continues, their goal is assured. One of the good features of this bond drive, which must not be overlooked, is the fact that the cancellation of payroll bond deductions has virtually stopped. We need less than \$1000.00 in cash sales to put the civilians over the top."

Miss Louise Cheatham, who is also working with the civilian employees representing the Civilian Recreation Center No. 2, wishes to thank her committee for the good work they are doing and urges them to continue their efforts until December 31st.

In reporting on the bond drive for nurse, physical therapists and dieticians, Lt. Margaret White states "They have done an excellent job of cash purchases to date—a total of \$3007.00 which does not include payroll allotments."

Patient, Nurse Wed; Courtship at MGH

A bed-side romance culminated in wedding bells last Saturday for Capt. Mack V. Bunderson, a patient in ward 40, and his nurse, 2nd Lt. Ruth M. Beck.

The ceremony was performed in the chapel by Maj. Edward W. Eanes. The bride was given in marriage by Major Temple Moore.

Miss Fern Bloom was maid of honor and best man for the couple was 1st Lt. Richard Z. MacDonald.

Patients' Hobbies Solve Christmas Gift Problems

The Christmas gift problem may be a serious one to most shoppers but to patients who use the hobby shop here it's a cinch. They make their own Christmas gifts!

One of the busiest and most creative departments in the hospital is the hobby shop. Started in January of this year with a mere handful of patient "customers," the shop now receives a steady stream of 100 to 150 patients daily.

Beginning with a small leather work shop, the Red Cross arts and skills hobby shop now includes metal and plastic works, decorative arts, sculpturing, art prints, and even knitting and fly-tying! Skilled craftsmen supervise each department to instruct or advise the patients, and materials are brought to the wards daily for bed patients interested in handi-craft.

The majority of the patients have found the hobby shop not only an interesting past time, but a happy solution for the Christmas gift problem. Projects range from tiny, pastel-shaded shell earrings to graceful table lamps. One of the more popular departments, the leather work section, is crowded with patients making intricate wallets, pocket-books and leather prints.

Lt. Luther Reams, inspired by the success of his first wallet, began to buy his own leather and devote his time to the making of such things as beautifully tooled hand bags and a fitted case to hold everything but a dressing table.

An enterprising workman in the leather department is Sgt. Donald Biery, who has fashioned countless number of wallets and sundry other

leather gifts. Sgt. Biery has spent every day since August in the hobby shop, and has made his own leather designing tools from scrap metal parts and nails.

The number of articles made from plexiglas include neat little cigarette and jewel boxes, dainty music boxes in the shape of miniature pianos, and table lamps. Lt. Lee Crissmann modestly considers himself a conservative Dali in the field of plexiglas, having nearly completed a gracefully fluted, ice blue table lamp of a most modern motif. "Some people tell me it looks like a waterfall," he stated.

Another modernist, only in the metal line, is T-5 John Staples, a commercial artist in civilian life. Staples prefers working in copper—"when I can get it." His products include hand-hammered, uniquely designed bracelets.

Mrs. Bernard Marchant, vice-chairman and Red Cross hospital captain, explained that although a part of the reconditioning program, the hobby shop has stimulated a keen interest among the patients and they seem to enjoy thoroughly the hours spent in the workshop.

The department is under the supervision of Mrs. Ruth Emmett, head therapist, and Mrs. LaMotte Blakely, Red Cross chairman.

Shoe Business and Printing Good Bets for Qualified Vets

The shoe business is booming like it never boomed before, even in the inflated and prosperous '20s, according to a recent survey of employment prospects for veterans.

Wartime leather shortages cut the supply of footwear available to the public and made necessary production of inferior products because of lack of high quality materials. Now, however, shoe rationing is over and better quality leather and other materials are beginning to return to the market. The public is replacing wartime footgear, including GI shoes, as fast as it can.

Ex-Pvt Tom Fuqua, sales manager of the Jarman Shoe Co., Nashville, Tenn., said that "current conditions in the shoe business have never had a parallel." According to his information sources in the industry, "there is a much greater demand for shoes, particularly men's shoes, than there has ever been." And there's no reconversion problem.

Major manufacturers are reemploying all vets now in the service. Fuqua, speaking for his company, adds that in addition "there will probably be room for more, by present sales indications." George W. Johnson, president of Endicott Johnson Corp., Endicott, N. Y., declares: "From time to time, we hope to be able to give work to other men and women."

As for shoe sales, vets without experience are advised not to open their own shops. It's difficult to make a success without suitable background. If you know what you're doing, that's another story; retail shoe stores are selling their merchandise as fast as they place it on their shelves.

The shoe boom is keeping manufacturers of shoe-making and shoe-repairing machinery busy, and some shoe firms complain that they are not getting machinery fast enough to suit them. As in other industries, this machinery was overworked during the war and spare parts were often not available.

Aside from domestic trade, the state of export markets will affect the industry. There is a colossal demand for shoes and shoe machinery abroad, particularly in war-devastated countries. If foreign nations can arrange the credits to purchase here, the shoe boom will be even greater.

Printing establishments are doing a land-office business these days. Some are short of help. Scores of

new magazine and other publications are cropping up and the old ones will increase in the number of pages and in circulation when paper shortages end, which may not be for some time.

Here's one example of the volume of business which printing firms are enjoying: the publisher of a 10-volume encyclopedia was told by his printer that it would take a year before he could run off a new printing. (A new printing—not a revised edition.)

Two of the biggest companies in the field are short of manpower.

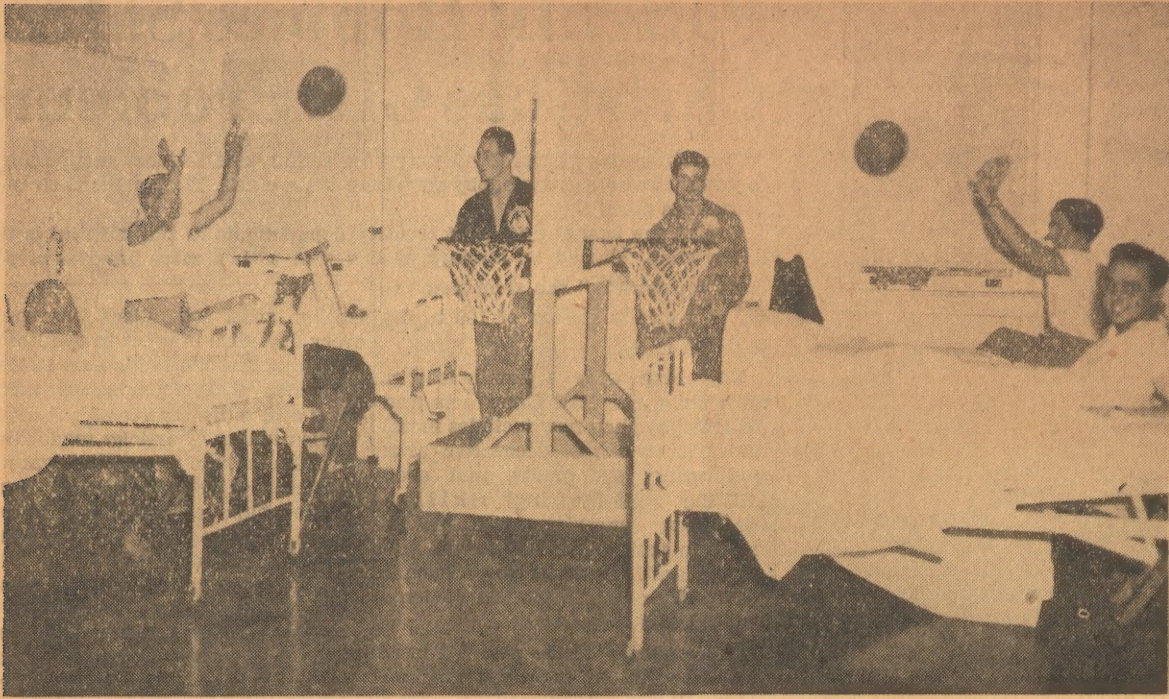
R. R. Donnelley & Sons Co., of Chicago, according to E. D. Chapman, personnel director, informs that post-war employment is expected to exceed prewar and peak wartime employment. In addition, Chapman said completion of a new plant next summer will create jobs for men and women in unskilled positions.

Raymond P. Fischer, vice-president of the Cuneo Press, also of Chicago, wrote 3 months ago: "We are pleased to tell you that the expansion of our normal printing activities has been such that we are still experiencing a manpower shortage in nearly every department of our organization, which carries on almost every known type of printing operation, from composition to binding and printing.

"We anticipate no difficulty in absorbing all our own men as they return from the service and our personnel director, Mr. Joseph Bartulis, will be glad to discuss employment with any other discharged veterans from the Chicago area."

Officers Club Holds Christmas Dance Here

The officers club will hold a Christmas dance for its members this Saturday night. Music will be furnished by the McGuire band which will not be dressed as Santa Claus for the occasion. Refreshments are promised and \$100 in door prizes will be awarded.



ROLL-GOAL—Invented by Lt. Stanley Model, of the McGuire staff, this game is intended to brighten the hours of bed-ridden patients. A regulation basketball is tossed by a player on either side of the bed, and score is kept in the usual manner, counting a basket as two points. The balls are retrieved for the patients by members of the reconditioning staff, who move the "Roll-Goal" from ward to ward.

Bedside Basketball For Horizontal Cagers

Mohammed isn't the only guy that could have the mountain brought to him! Bed patients at McGuire may now have a basketball court wheeled right to their bedside. The Roll-Goal, as this practical, mobile court is called, can be wheeled into every ward for the pleasure of horizontal hoopsters who can score with the best of them without moving out of bed.

Designed primarily for paraplegics and bilateral amputees, the portable court will be brought on a daily schedule to the wards and placed between the feet of opposite beds. The patient will be able to make baskets lying flat on his back.

The Roll-Goal is the first of three such devices, and will be put into use next week. The court consists of a backboard with two baskets on either side of the board. The lower part of the stand will hold gym equipment of all sorts, thus providing recreational equipment for those patients awaiting their turn at the court.

Inventor extraordinaire of the court is Lt. Stanley A. Model, new assistant chief of physical reconditioning. Lt. Model explained that it is the desire of the reconditioning shop to give the bed patients as much apparatus as possible for physical reconditioning. The lieutenant came to McGuire from the convalescent hospital at Camp Pickett, where he was chief of remedial gym section. It has been a hobby with him to design and construct various remedial devices and mechanical apparatus to meet the needs of physically handicapped men.

Zebra Strippers Sign Up But Buck Privates Don't

The Army's recruiting drive is producing an army of sergeants, Secretary of War Patterson discloses. Some 20 per cent of the 55,122 who have signed up between Aug. 10 and Oct. 31 are master sergeants, he said, whereas this grade comprises only 2 per cent of the normal Army.

Welcoming the higher grades, Patterson nevertheless added: "It is hard to build an army in which there are more men in the higher ratings than there are privates and pfc's."

Dancer on Crutches Stars on USO Show

Amputees patients and others who must use crutches will see an amazing performance of agility and dancing skills when "Little" Jesse James will perform with the USO unit, "Suntan Revue," which arrives here Monday, Dec. 17.

With an all-colored cast of performers "Suntan Revue" is billed as a fast-stepping, lively show.

"Little" Jesse James combines his talents as a dancer on crutches with his whistling ability. Eubie Blake who accompanies the troupe on his piano is the composer of the original "Shuffle Along" show. He also wrote the music of the popular tune, "I'm Just Wild About Harry."

Audrey Thomas, singer and the comedy team of Glenn and Jenkins round out the bill. As master of ceremonies "Honey Boy" Thompson dances as well as paces the show.

The "Suntan Revue" cast will be heard over MCGH from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Monday and at 7:30 p.m. will appear at the Red Cross auditorium. There will be no ward shows, and the plea is made for all to get seats promptly.

This Gag Worked

An Oklahoma City bank was robbed of \$13,000 recently by a couple of guys who didn't know they were pulling a stickup. The pair, later nabbed by police, said they had been asked by a stranger to bring a note to the bank's cashier. The two men, who couldn't read, then obligingly presented their epistle to cashier Betty Phillips: "Fill a box with big bills and give it to bearer. The bank is filled with thugs."

10,000 Jeeps Available to Veterans Only

Almost 10,000 surplus jeeps were placed on sale to veterans by the RFC, Surplus Property Division, the Surplus Property Administration has announced.

For the 14-day period ending December 17, no one but veterans will be allowed to place orders for these jeeps.

Orders will be taken at the 11 regional consumer goods disposal offices of the RFC. They must be made in person or by mail before midnight December 17 by veterans certified by Smaller War Plants Corporation offices. The vehicles will be sold only to veterans who need them in their business or trade, or for farm or professional use. By law they cannot be sold for personal use.

After the expiration of the order period for veterans on December 17, the regional offices will forward their orders to the RFC office in Washington, where the jeeps will be allocated by states to insure a fair nation-wide distribution. The sale includes all jeeps now declared surplus.

Five hundred and eighty of the total number of jeeps originally declared surplus were taken by government agencies, which have a higher priority than veterans in the purchase of surplus property.

If any jeeps are not purchased by veterans or other preferential buyers, they will be placed in the normal channels of trade as prescribed by the Surplus Property Act.

Veterans will be notified by the regional offices, after the allocation by states has been completed, as to where to go to inspect the vehicle, make a selection and take possession.

The price range on new and substantially new jeeps is from \$598 to \$782, depending on year of manufacture and condition.

Generals Toll Bell Over Bellwood 64-46

The Bellwood Engineers became the sixth victims of the McGuire Generals when they had their bridges burned behind them here by the McGuiremen Monday night by the score of 64-46.

The final score did not indicate what at first appeared to be an easy victory for the Bellwood team, which seemed slated to be the first to tarnish the glitter of the Generals.

The Engineers got under way to a quick lead and the Generals found the going pretty rough. At the end of the first half the score was deadlocked at 22-22. McGuire rooters sat uneasily in the stands while their favorites took their break.

They didn't have too long to wait, as the second half started to see a complete reversal of form. Within the first two minutes of play, the Generals, breaking fast and catching their opponents off balance, began to flash a brand of ball that accounted for a quick 12 points.

In the second half the Generals tallied 42 markers to end the game 64-46.

Charlie Wolf, captain of the McGuire five, was started at forward by Coach Al Bianco. Throughout the earlier part of the season Wolf had been started at center. Bianco intends to make the change a permanent one.

In the game against Bellwood, high scorers for McGuire were "Dusty" Rhodes and Al Renaldi, each scoring 15 points. Following them with 13 points was Wolf. For Bellwood, high man on their totem pole was Kerstein, who accounted for a very neat 17 points.

The McGuirettes, showing well under the guidance of their new coach, Margie Dunn, scored an easy

victory over a girls' team from Bellwood. The local girls, who started off their season with a number of consecutive defeats, have changed their way of living and have won their last two games, one against the much-vaunted six from Camp Patrick Henry.

Scoring 18 of McGuire's 25 points was Talmadge. The final score was McGuire, 25; Bellwood, 14.

Last night's game with Hampden-Sydney, which was played on the college grounds at Farmville, ended too late to make this edition. A return match will be played against the college quint when they appear here on Tuesday.

Rhodes and Renaldi, two of the team's aces, will be absent from the line-up when the game Thursday night is played. Missing also may be such stalwarts as Rabin and Windnagle. The latter has an infected foot, while the others are away either on pass or furlough.

Tuesday night's game against the Hampden-Sydney five will end the first half of the season for the Generals.

For the second half of the season the Generals' schedule calls for the team to meet such powerful teams as the Camp Lee Travellers, the A. P. Hill squad and the team from Camp Pickett.

Choir Sings Sunday For Church Service

Four members of the McGuire Chapel Choir participated in the chorus of "The Messiah" last Tuesday evening at the Mosque Theatre. The singers, part of a 300-voice chorus, were T-3 Ruth K. Swetland, T-5 Winona L. Hallock, T-5 Marilyn Hoppers and T-5 Evelyn Wiest. They were accompanied by a symphony orchestra and soloists from Philadelphia and New York.

The chapel choir will sing for this Sunday's Protestant services, which will be broadcast by the radio distribution system. The theme for the service will be "The Christmas Story in Song." Musical selections will consist of the following songs: O Holy Night.....Adolph Adam Gloria in Excelsis Deo.....

Old French Melody (Women's three-part chorus) God So Loved the World..... John Stainer

(Mixed chorus) Prayer Responses Music by George Whelpton Hear Our Prayer, O Lord Lord, Let Us Now Depart in Peace

Speedy!

London—A British jet plane, a Gloster Meteor, established what is claimed to be a world speed record of 606 miles an hour, in four test runs off the South coast of England. The ship was of standard design but was specially groomed for a crack at the recognized record of 469.2 mph, set by a German in an ME 109 in 1939.

Male Call



by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



No Halfway Measures

